

## Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

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62

ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EB-07 SS-15 SP-02 INR-07 L-02 RSC-01

ARAE-00 /045 W

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P 041417Z FEB 75

FM AMEMBASSY ASUNCION

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 4312

C O N F I D E N T I A L ASUNCION 0448

STADIS////////////////////////////////////

FOR ASSISTANT SECRETARY ROGERS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, MFM

SUBJECT: POSTPONEMENT OF BA-MFM

REF: (A) STATE 21494 (B) 22865

1. TWO TEXTS (REFTEL A) DELIVERED TO FONMIN JANUARY 31.

2. AT SAMLL DIPLOMATIC DINNER THAT EVENING FONMIN  
SAPENA PASTOR TOLD GUESTS THAT HE DEPLORED POSITION TAKEN BY  
VENEZUE AND ECUADOR (WHOSE REPRESENTATIVES WERE  
NOT PRESENT), WHICH PARAGUAY FEELS HAVE BEEN ACTING  
LIKE DOGS IN MANGER. HE HEATEDLY DENOUNCED THEM FOR  
PARTICIPATING IN RAISING PRICE OF OIL BEYOND REACH  
OF SMALL, POOR CONSUMERS SUCH AS PARAGUAY. HE  
DENOUNCED THEIR ABILITY TO SCUTTLE BA CONFERENCE (AND  
BY IMPLICATION, WAS CRITICAL OF GOA'S YIELDING TO THEIR  
PRESSURE).

3. IN AN ASIDE TO ME, HE SAID HE WOULD NOT BLAME  
SECRETARY IF HE CANCELED HIS VISIT TO LATIN AMERICA.

4. COMMENT: GOP HAS FOLLOWED CONSISTENT LINE SINCE  
US TRADE BILL-MFM ISSUE AROSE. IT HAS ALSO BEEN  
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REFLECTED IN SEVERAL EDITORIALS (SENT VIA USIA CHANNELS)

AND IN MOST PRIVATE CONTACTS WE HAVE HAD WITH LOCAL EXPORTERS. GOP DOES NOT SEEM PARTICULARLY CONCERNED RE FUTURE OF "DIALOGUE" PER SE, WHICH IT VIEWS AS ACADEMIC EXERCISE, BUT HAS CHOSEN TO FOCUS ON PRACTICAL ISSUE OF THE PRICE OF OIL AND IN THAT CONTEXT VIEWS DISCRIMINATORY FEATURES OF US TRADE BILL AS PROPER RETALIATION FROM WHICH PARAGUAY MAY ALSO HOPE TO BENEFIT. IN THAT CONNECTION, IN PRIVATE CONVERSATIONS GOP OFFICIALS HAVE REPEATEDLY ASKED ME WHY THE USG HAS NOT ONLY FAILED TO DEFEND ITSELF MORE FORCEFULLY FROM WHAT THEY SAY ARE IRRATIONAL OR POLITICALLY-MOTIVATED ATTACKS FROM CERTAIN LA QUARTERS, BUT HAS SEEMED (IN SOME OF ITS OFFICIAL STATEMENTS) TO HAVE BEEN APOLOGIZING FOR ACTING IN ITS OWN SELF-INTEREST. ALTHOUGH THESE QUESTIONS ARE OBVIOUSLY PARTLY RHETORICAL, THEY DO ILLUSTRATE THE GENERAL PARAGUAYAN ATTITUDE TOWARD THE WHOLE QUESTION OF THE TRADE BILL AND MFM SPECIFICALLY, AND US-LA RELATIONS IN GENERAL.

BRIGGS

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** Z  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** POLICIES, FOREIGN MINISTERS MEETINGS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 04 FEB 1975  
**Decaption Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Decaption Note:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** GolinoFR  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1975ASUNCI00448  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
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**Subject:** POSTPONEMENT OF BA-MFM  
**TAGS:** PFOR, XM, PA, BUENOS AIRES, (SAPENA PASTOR, RAUL)  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
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